

## *~ Peggy Sutterfield – Garden #5*

Growing up with a gardening mother in Pacifica, California, owner Peggy Sutterfield created her two acre garden in 2015, bringing many of the same landscaping and gardening ideas instilled in her from years before to her Chicago Park home. The original home, built in 1963, sits on property from the early 1900's, first owned by the Chicago Land Company, with plans to build a hotel. In early photographs, Peggy's property shows where kilns were built to be used for firing the bricks to build the hotel. However, early Chinese laborers said that the clay soil wouldn't work well in making the bricks. In addition, a large snow storm, which brought four feet of snow that year, added to the demise of the hotel.

Peggy bought the two acres in 2015, getting straight to work which included leveling a hillside, building retaining walls, pathways, a drip system and clearing of blackberry bushes that encompassed more than 20% of the 2 acres. She hardscaped around the property, although she does have plenty of cedars and pine providing shade. She is still the "one woman show" in annual maintenance and planting of her flowers, vegetables and herb garden. She's amended the clay soil as much as she can, beginning with 5 yards of topsoil, digging into it, and using the gravity-fed water with filters from her nearby NID canal and pipe, which run alongside the garden and behind the house.

Peggy's garden blooms with katsura, Mexican marigold, iris, hibiscus, photinia, euphorbia, salvia, roses, rockrose, grevillea, dogwood, apple, pear, plum and cherry trees and Japanese maple. Her vegetable garden, though, she says, not quite as plentiful in variety, produces tomatoes, Swiss chard, lemon cucumbers, strawberries and blueberries. She has close to 50 pieces of garden art, from small clay faces to a larger water feature and moving, wind sculptures.

Along with the main house sits a beautiful, wooden 100-yr-old "workshop," originally the stables and tack room of the previous owner. An old root cellar lies inside. The workshop sits 50 yards away on an upper level path with a rock wall and steps leading up to it, where a swing hangs down 30 feet from the branches of an ancient oak tree. Her favorite part of the garden is sitting on the back deck, looking over all of it.